



2834

CERA-234 (10110472)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Bindig, et al.  
Serial No. : 10/016,488  
Filed : November 1, 2001  
For : EXTERNAL ELECTRODES ON PIEZOCERAMIC  
MULTILAYER ACTUATORS  
Art Unit : 2834  
Examiner : J. A. Aguirrechea

May 19, 2003

Mail Stop: Non Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

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Fani Malikouzakis

Fani Malikouzakis  
Signature

May 19, 2003  
Date

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE UNDER RULE 111**

Sir:

Further to the Rule 111 Amendment filed May 15, 2003, please reconsider this application in view of the following Remarks.

**REMARKS**

Applicants submit the following comments regarding Takeuchi, a secondary reference cited by the Examiner in the most recent office action.

Takeuchi relates to preventing any disturbance of the frequency characteristic of a piezoelectric thin-film oscillator. The interruption of the electrodes in Takeuchi does not serve to protect the base metallization against the formation of cracks. The conductive surfaces of

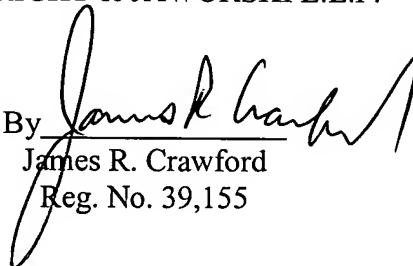
small size, separated from one another, are intended to control the flow of current. The main current flow according to the abstract therefore passes through the uninterrupted conductor part 16. Based on the disclosure of Takeuchi and the problem presented therein to be solved, no expert will be led to the subject matter of the claimed invention whether or not Takeuchi is combined with Bindig, since there is no indication in that Abstract that an interruption of the conducting surfaces in a thin-film oscillator can prevent possible cracking of a base metallization against external electrodes of a piezoceramic multilayer actor.

In view of the foregoing, allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-0624, under Order No. NY-CERA-234-US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted

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